

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00079 221941Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----105096 221944Z /50

O 221915Z JAN 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6617
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEE ATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RYEKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0079

EXDIS

DEPT PASS TO SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJ: NAMIBIA: PROXIMITY TALKS AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL

REF: (A) USUN 0187; (B) STATE 017257

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THE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REPORT PREPARED BY CAPE TOWN
FIVE ON MEETING WITH PIK BOTHA THIS EVENING.

1. BEGIN QUOTE: THE CAPE TOWN FIVE SAW PIK BOTHA

AND BRAND FOURIE AT 6:30 P.M., JANUARY 22.

2. AFTER PRESENTING THE TEXT OF THE COMMUNIQUE,
BOTH AT SOME LENGTH DESCRIBED TWO PROBLEMS. ONE HAD
TO DO WITH THE PROPOSED DATES AND HIS OWN SCHEDULE.
SO FAR AS THIS POINT IS CONCERNED HE SAID HE HOPED
TO WORK OUT HIS SCHEDULING DIFFICULTIES SO AS TO MEET
THE DATES ADVANCED BY THE FIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS.

3. THE SECOND CONCERNED THE TIMING OF AN ANNOUNCEMENT
OF THE DATE FOR ELECTIONS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT IT
PRESENTED MUCH GREATER DIFFICULTIES BECAUSE IT
INVOLVED ANOTHER POSTPONEMENT OF A NECESSARY DECISION.
HE NEVERTHELESS AGREED TO PUT THE TWO PROBLEMS TO THE
PRIME MINISTER AND THE CABINET, PROBABLY TOMORROW, AND
TO LET US HAVE A DECISION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE EXPLAINED
AT LENGTH THE DIFFICULTIES HE FACES IN PERSUADING HIS
PRIME MINISTER AND CERTAIN CABINET COLLEAGUES
OF THE NEED TO POSTPONE AGAIN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF
AN ELECTION DATE, BUT AT THE END OF THE MEETING HE PROMISED
TO DO HIS BEST TO ACHIEVE THIS.

4. WE STRESSED THE NEED TO MAINTAIN STRICTEST
CONFIDENTIALITY UNTIL ALL CONCERNED HAD ACCEPTED THE
CURRENT INVITATION. END QUOTE.

MY OWN ASSESSMENT FOLLOWS. BOWDLER

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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TO SECRETARY.

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NNN

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